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McCarthy Talks To Press Women On CIA Project

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WASHINGTON — Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D., Minn.), in a speech before the Women's National Press Club, said, "Americans don't make very good spies, and some government opinions are that James Bond is dead."

Seriously discussing the Central Intelligence Agency, he raised three questions regarding its organization: What does it do? Does it do it well? and By what authority does it function?

Regarding what it does, the CIA has been active in the field of foreign policy, and it has performed some acts with executive approval regarding Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala and South Vietnam. The CIA has now acknowledged that it provided funds to student groups, and it has been charged with funding labor organizations and even the press. One of the Agency's purposes is to fight communism, and it has various ways of doing it.

The senator quoted Britain's Lord Cromwell who defended his actions: "If you are satisfied that the objectives are good, then there is no reason to question the methods."

Is the CIA doing its job well? The Senator said, "In a free society one makes mistakes on the side of trust, but we must be careful not to sacrifice our goals. Secret Service applies to a special kind of sacrifice and Americans do not like to stay underground for long."

The Senator felt that some of the organizations aided by the CIA could have done their work just as well or even better if it had been done openly. He said that the Peace Corps has been affected by the student organization, but the publicity created will not cause the Peace

Corps any permanent damage. The National Student Association fought communism in this country without help from the CIA and it could have done so on an international front.

The Senator does not believe the CIA will become a political football, but he said the foreign relations committee of the Senate should have a clear division of the agency's functions, and only those functions which endanger the security of the United States should be secret.